

A. F. U. BULLETIN

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF ALBERTA FARMERS' UNION

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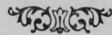
In Union you can do your share!

Farm Productions mighty weight
Was not attained by sudden flight,
But we, while others played or slept,
Were toiling on, into the night.

This was not only done for pay
We also aimed to build a home,
We saw in ev'ry cloud a ray,
Ere hope was buried in the tomb.

For earth's redemption we all pray,
For Agricultures erstwhile might;
This is no idle sluggards dream,
It takes live men, get in and FIGHT.

In union we must put our trust,
Each one his neighbours burden bear;
Though individual talents rust
In UNION you can do your share.



REPORT ON CONVENTION

HELD AT VERMILION, JULY 15th, 1942.

District Seven

The A.F.U. Convention was held at Vermilion July 15th, 1942, of which Mr. Collins was Chairman and Mr. Dick Saik, Secretary.

A following resolution Committee nominated:

(A) Alexandria Division: Mr. Alex Danneldson, Mr. Arison.

(B) Vermilion Division: Mr. Steven Halina, Mr. Mike Dmitriw.

(C) Wainwright Division: Mr. Golding.
Elected:

Alexandria — Mr. Danneldson.

Vermilion — Mr. Halina.

Wainwright — Mr. Golding.

Mr. Jackson gave a briefly summarized account of the present divisional set-up.

Secretary of Chatsworth Local, Mr. Nestman then defined the position of the farmer. The part he plays in the national effort and what he gets for his work.

Moved by Mr. Smith that we adjourn for noon.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Agenda was adopted.

President Mr. McGowan gave a brief summary of the Ottawa Convention, the attitude the Government takes towards the farmers. Results of the Edmonton Convention and the amalgamation of the A.F.U. and U.F.A.

Moved by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Pudlubney, that Mr. Nestman give the Resolution committee a help.

Mr. D. Sharon gave us plans and ideas of how to increase the capacity of our membership in the locals.

Mr. J. Jackson Vice-President, Ottawa Delegate, stressed the importance of farm production as an urgent war need. The means to reach collective security, Parity Prices or only lost production.

Mr. Andy Wood U.F.A. passed Greetings privately from the U.F.A. to the Vermilion Convention.

Election of Map Committee for Division Seven

(a) Alexandria — Mr. Arison nominated by Mr. Smith. Mr. Bolshan nominated by Mr. Podlubney.

(b) Vermilion — Mr. D. Sharon nominated by Mr. Dmitriw. Mr. Nestman nominated by Mr. Sharon.

(c) Wainwright — Mr. Garnow nominated by Mr. Nestman. Mr. Jackson nominated by Mr. Garnow.

Motion made by Mr. Springfort that all six be on the committee. CARRIED.

1. RESOLVED that Local No. 240 and No. 447 be transferred from district four to district Seven.

WHEREAS Vermilion is closer and has better road and telephone communications facilities.

Moved by Mr. Sharon, seconded by Mr. Smith. CARRIED.

2. WHEREAS the large portion of gasoline is used by the farmers in running to and from the Service Station,

THEREBY be it resolved that the Dominion Government allow farmers to buy gasoline by the drum,

THEREBY eliminating unessential usage of gasoline and rubber.

Moved by Mr. Springfort, seconded by Mr. Tingly. CARRIED.

3. We go on record as strongly favoring the handing of his Pass Port to the Vichy Consulate.

Moved by Mr. Springfort, seconded by Mr. Smith. CARRIED.

4. We go on record to be strongly opposed to the present set-up

WHEREAS having trucks and buses working parallel with the railways. This not being in the interest of the War Effort as it is unnecessary consumption of Gasoline and Rubber.

Moved by Mr. P. East and seconded.

CARRIED.

5. WHEREAS it is evident that a beef shortage is inevitable in this Dominion,

AND WHEREAS the average dressed weight of 485 lbs., per carcass over the past several years is considered by us to be far too low and altogether wasteful.

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Dominion Government immediately implement legislation to prohibit the slaughter of calves or any cattle under at least a minimum of 700 lbs. live weight.

Moved by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Springfort. CARRIED.

6. Eliminate the Shortage of Farm hands for Harvest.

Moved by Mr. Sharon, seconded by Mr. Skish. CARRIED.

7. WHEREAS the price of wheat is below the cost of production,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the wheat board price be not less than One Dollar and Twenty-five (\$1.25) per bushel in our local elevator. And thereby only an adequate amount of

wheat be permitted to be sold per farm unit.

Moved by Mr. Skish, seconded by Mr. Petrowski.

RESOLVED that the adequate amount of 1,000 bushels sold per farm unit.

Amendment by Mr. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Sharon.

8. Resolution regarding the payment of Freight. **TABLED.**

10. Grants and Loans: THEREFORE be it resolved that the Dominion Government furnish a grant to each farmer who wishes or can keep sheep, to aid the war effort. This grant would be to help the farmers to buy sheep.

Moved by Mr. Sharon, seconded by Mr. Goalie. **CARRIED.**

11. WHEREAS the farmers of Alberta are called upon to increase the sheep production, in order to meet the increased demand for wool and meat, **AND**

WHEREAS much damage is done by dogs each year and no protection offered to sheep owners,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Provincial Government institute immediate legislation, which will give sheep owners some protection as they have in other provinces, by taxing dog owners a sum of one dollar per year. Tax to be used to compensate of sheep killed or mauled by dogs.

Moved by Mr. Nestman, seconded by Mr. Bolchan. **CARRIED.**

12. WHEREAS recent authorized press announcements have indicated there has been an agreement between Britain, United States and Russia, for the opening of a second land front in Europe in 1942.

THEREFORE be it resolved that this gathering of farmers citizens of our country at war, urge our government to assist in every way possible in the opening of a second land front, in the immediate future, so that the centre of the Axis strength can be destroyed in an attack from both sides and all democratic nations be free to turn their combined forces on the Axis.

Moved by Mr. Springfort, seconded by Mr. Tingly.

13. WHEREAS the fear of a collapse in prices as in times past is a serious detriment to war-time food production, and

WHEREAS farmers cannot expand or maintain production when prices are below cost of production,

THEREFORE be it resolved that we urge the Government place no ceiling below parity to curb the upward trend of farm prices and that the principle of parity prices guaranteeing the farmers against loss should guide the Government in all farm policies for all time.

Moved by Mr. Nestman, seconded by Mr. Christopher. **CARRIED.**

14. As the Department of Agriculture has wanted hogs to be heavier in carcass and thereby brought the weight higher,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Government would allow half inch more meat on the loin than before, to get more selects.

Moved by Mr. Andrew Hluss, seconded by Mr. Tippie. **CARRIED.**

15. Resolution regarding the release of all anti-facists.

Moved by Mr. Garnow, seconded by Mr. Nestman. **CARRIED.**

Mr. Nestman introduced the Western Farmer and appealed to all farmers for its subscription and during the course of his remarks emphasized the importance of the district paper, the Vermilion Standard, to everyone in general and farmers in particular. He urged them not to forget their home-town newspaper and he stated he had found it a great asset in advertising the meetings of the UNION and its activities.

A brief synopsis given by Mr. Nestman on the Grouping of Division Seven.

Resolved that the Map grouping be adopted.

Moved by Mr. Springfort, seconded by Mr. Pudlubney. **CARRIED.**

Mr. La France a local member gave a hint on how to try and encourage group members to hold to-gether.

Election of Director to the Central Board:

Mr. Collins, nominated by Mr. Springfort and Mr. Tingley.

Mr. Sharon, nominated by Mr. Fedoryshyn and Mr. Dmitriw.

Mr. Jackson, nominated by Mr. Sharon and Mr. Nestman.

Mr. Nestman, nominated by Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kominsky.

Each of the nominees in turn are asked to give a short speech and to leave the room for the voting.

Declared that Mr. Nestman is unanimously elected as Director of District Seven.

Mr. Nestman thanked them for his election.

Mr. Stewart, Manager of the Wheat Pool, gave his attitude towards the farmers Union.

Nomination for District President.

By acclamation Mr. Nestman, District President.

District Vice-President, Mr. D. Sharon.

District Secretary, Mr. D. Saik.

Divisional Sub-Directors:

Division 1 — Mr. Joe Topilka, Elk Point, Alberta.

Division 2 — Mr. T. Belshien, Onion Lake, Saskatchewan.

Division 3 — Mr. Jas. Jackson, Irma, Alta.

Announcement by Mr. Jackson:

"A rally to be held at Wainwright with Mrs. Minerva Cooper as the out-standing speaker."

A motion made by Mr. Jackson to charge each local a sum of 50c as a temporary fee for district expenses.

Seconded by Mr. Ed. Hoffman.

Ammendment by Mr. Steven Halina, seconded by Mr. Dmitriw to charge them one dollar at present.

Meeting is adjourned at 7:30 P. M.

Farm Notes

(From Experience)

Store Sods Now for Winter Pigs.

Pigs are like some people. They want the Earth!!!

A little sod in the pen enables the pigs to get their IRON from a natural source during the winter months; and it is a good plan to provide a pile of sods near the pig pens during the fall so as to have them available during the winter.

Many little pigs suffer from anaemia and this is caused by a lack of iron. When these symptoms have made themselves manifest the little pigs must be dosed. This is done by giving to each pig as much reduced iron as can be placed on a small five cent piece (if you can find one) by forcing the mouth open and putting it well back on the tongue. See that the sow is well secured while doing this!! This must be done when the pigs are about one week old and again a week later and a third dose must be given one week later.

This dosing is an unpleasant task but the little pig must have his iron, if he is to get a good figure, so if any way can be found so that piggy gets his iron without the handling and squealing it will be welcome to the busy farmer, and this is how it can be done. Don't forget to feed the sods. If you have never been troubled with anaemia before maybe this is all you will have to do as perhaps your soil contains enough iron for pigs.

If, however, you have been troubled with it perhaps there is not enough iron in your soil and you will have to add some to the sods. In order to be sure that the sod contains enough iron dissolve a tablespoonful of sulphate of iron in a pint of water and sprinkle it over one good sod that would about fill a bucket and throw it into the pigs. This is a much more pleasant way of supplying the pigs with iron and therefore is not likely to be neglected during the busy seasons.

If you also feed a little tankage to supply the necessary protein, your winter pigs should do as good as summer ones.

Radio Donation

September 24, Albright Local No. 300,
Secretary Mr. J. E. Kyle \$10.00

ONTARIO FARMERS VOICE ANNOYANCE No Need To Ration Beef If Agriculture Is Given a Chance

In a statement issued at Toronto this week the Executive of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture took issue with the chairman of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board on his Sunday night declaration that beef prices are not going to rise and in fact are going to be forced down.

The federation expressed "complete disgust and disagreement" with Mr. Gordon's statement in which he said that the board is seriously considering establishment of ceiling prices on live stock.

"Mr. Gordon is running true to form", the statement said. "With a conference on the beef situation called by the foods administration of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board now under way in Saskatoon, Mr. Gordon comes out with a typical blast. The feeling is that he had an eye on the Saskatoon conference when he gave his intimation of policy.

"Everything points to a show-down between Mr. Gordon and agriculture. If the farmers, as Mr. Gordon claims, are laboring under a mistaken impression prices were going to rise this fall. the administrative offices of the board are to blame for they definitely gave the impression farmers would receive the benefit of the American quota when it opens in the last quarter on October 1."

NOT BEING PUSHED AROUND

"Our farmers are not going to be pushed around, and will not be slow to accept Mr. Gordon's challenge," the statement said.

The statement declared "there would be no need of rationing of beef supplies if agriculture had been given a chance," and said Mr. Gordon "must accept responsibility for the disruption of orderly marketing, and further arbitrary actions are not going to improve the situation."

It said there was no "long range vision" to the board's policy, in addition to which the board "shows a distinct failure to recognize mistakes and to admit failure."

The federation announced it was "determined to make an issue" of Mr. Gordon's policy, as enunciated in his Sunday press statement, and said "the showdown has been threatening for months, and has been hastened by the latest declaration from the man who regards himself as greater than the department of agriculture and greater, even, than the parliament of Canada."

It is necessary to give careful thought to the man or woman who YOU nominate to offices in your UNION.

Do not think anyone will do just because they are willing to take the job.

Broadcast, Wednesday, July 22nd, 1942

The Divisional Conventions which have just finished, had one purpose in view and one only. They have been held for the purpose of completing the building of the Alberta Farmers' Union from the bottom up, all over the Province. As I pointed out to you once before, this is not just another farmers organization. The reforms we have in view are fundamental. We know the farmers are not satisfied with the **results** which have been obtained by their organizations in the times past. At the same time we believe we **KNOW** our farmers and they are not prepared to give up the fight simply because their efforts have not been successful up to the present time. No! we have only just begun to fight; and our efforts will be better directed than they have been in the past because we are going to profit by our mistakes and not make the same ones again.

Individual Responsibility

We must not shirk our responsibilities however; the decision of **policy** and the mainspring of **action** must come from the rank and file. It is all right to have a leader; but a real leader in a movement of this kind must be a leader who takes his direction from the membership. This organization is concerned with the economic emancipation of its members; not its leaders. The accomplishment of the first will automatically bring about the latter and it is right that it should be so. But in the past we have witnessed the building up of organizations which only resulted in the economic emancipation of the leaders while the ordinary members were left in the lurch. This is one of the mistakes you have made in the past. See that you do not make it again. The financial rewards of your leaders must be about the same as that of the membership. As economic betterment is obtained for the members as a result of your **UNION** action, so should the financial reward of your leaders be advanced. Just as much as that of the members. But **NO MORE**. This is fundamental and whether I am on the job or not; you must **NEVER** forget it.

From now on the fundamental job of organization must be with the Sub-Districts. Each one of these must regard itself as a new organization in the making. They occupy the same position to-day as the head-quarters of the organization did three years ago. If the job seems hard to you sub-directors, think what it must have seemed to those who gave up their time and energy to the movement at its inception. You have 15,000 times more cause to be encouraged than they had because now we have that many members and helpers, while they had none except them-

selves. Give them the credit they deserve and go on and progress from where they left off.

We have given you a full report of the Divisional Conventions in the August number of the Bulletin. It is the duty of every member to have at least one copy come to the house. You need the information and inspiration which we hope the Bulletin gives and we need your subscription to carry on the fight.

Union Responsibility

Certain trade agreements and pooling of resources have been made between the Canadian and United States governments in order to carry on the common war effort. The success of this war effort means the same to both countries. It is vital to the success of other departments of the United States war effort that Agriculture should be efficient, progressive and prosperous. Government policies have been framed for the successful accomplishment of these ends. Why is not the same done in Canada? Conditions are practically the same on both sides of the line and yet there is a wide difference in the price scale. Agricultural policies in the States have been framed by a sympathetic administration in consultation with the organized bodies of farmers and an effective policy developed. The farm bodies developed themselves first and by pressure through the Farm Bloc were able to get in large measure the results they desired. Price ceilings were not allowed to exercise premature and unjust pressure on the prices of farm products there, while other industries were allowed to get out from under. All were treated alike and the result is that farmers there are paying their debts. Why? Because they have had reasonable debt adjustment and are now getting Parity Prices. Canadian farmers are being urged by Mortgage company representatives to pay their debts also; but these people have overlooked the all important fact that the United States farmer is receiving a price for his produce which enables him to have a little surplus with which to pay debts; while the Canadian farmer is not.

According to all indications at the moment the prospects are good for the Canadian west to harvest the biggest crop in history. If this should happen and the labour is available to get it harvested, where will it be stored? This is a question which has got to be answered. More than a year ago this organization was advocating government help to get more grain storage facilities established on the farm. That is the logical place to store grain. The government did nothing. The mortgage companies did nothing. One would think that if the mortgage companies expect to

capitalize on the farmers grain they would show some interest in the capacity of the storage available and be ready to render some financial assistance as their credit is always SO good! But NO, this is the farmers headache, as it always has been. The mortgage companies have been pap fed and babied along, the farmer taking all the responsibility and doing all the hard work of finding storage and delivering grain; while the mortgage companies took the profits — if any — and the farm — if NOT. It should be made a condition in the present time of National emergency that the mortgage companies must provide storage on the farm for ALL the farmers grain if they expect to get whatever proportion the farmer is able to pay after all other costs are met. This would be no more than poetic justice as they have always profited unduly by the farmers big crops, without any of the headache, the backache or the heartache.

Government Responsibility

Failing this, the responsibility must rest on the Dominion government. They can take the same action as has been taken by the government of the United States which is paying the American farmer 20 c. per bushel more than the market value of the grain so that he can provide, if necessary, storage facilities on the farm. This can be done without increasing the burden on the Canadian taxpayer. The Bank of Canada can perform the function for which Mr. King said it was created. "To issue public credit in terms of public NEED". The farmers have performed their job by producing a lot of new Wealth in the form of wheat. It requires the issue of some financial credit in order to store this grain. Surely this is what the Bank of Canada was established for. The NEED is HERE. The Bank of Canada is here. Its function was to issue credit when the need arose. What then, are we waiting for? Mr. King now has the opportunity to fulfil another of his promises and we feel sure that all he wants is the **opportunity** to do so.

Reconstruction

We presume that a conference will be called and it must be called quickly and action taken immediately. Old methods will no longer do. We know that Mr. King must recognise this because he himself said that the New Order must be on its way before the war is over and if we expect to get it we must begin now. One aspect of reconstruction is frequently overlooked altogether. That is, that the system under which we live has broken down altogether and is now thoroughly discredited. The concept of a "new order", if it is worth talking about at all, must be based on a complete revision of the whole economic system, a recasting of the relationship between finance, industry and agriculture.

What we wish to speak of here in addition

to the present condition of Agriculture in the West is the following statement by Premier Bracken of Manitoba who said, — "My opinion is that the best way to solve the debt problem is to put Agriculture on a basis where the farmers can pay their own way". This of course, is the only solution that would be a solution. Any method of tinkering with the problem by way of paying bonuses etc. is equivalent to saying that food-stuffs and clothing material are not worth what they cost to raise and if they are worth that little, then people would be better off without them; because that is the final, inevitable conclusion to which we come in all other lines of industry when we are confronted with the problem that "costs" cannot be recovered out of "prices" because people will not buy at a remunerative price. We then cease to make articles because we cannot sell for a satisfactory price. If then the general conclusion of the Canadian people is that they cannot afford to pay such a price for the farmers produce as will enable him to carry on without going into debt and this is concurred in by the Dominion government; then the only thing that remains for the farmer to do is to practically shut up shop and just raise enough for his own existence; because that is all he is getting out of it anyway. If, when the farmer has produced a bumper crop the onus of storing it and financing it is also to be thrown upon his shoulders, one might well ask what are financial institutions and governments for?

Put the Blame where it belongs

If by reason of their unwillingness to shoulder their share of the responsibility the farmer is forced to curtail his production, then no blame can be found with the farmer. The growing of grain and livestock is distinctly the farmers business. The providing of lumber and finance is just as distinctly NOT his business and if the breakdown or non-operation of the two last mentioned facilities prevent the farmer from operating efficiently, the responsibility is not his.

A statement issued by the Western Retail Lumbermen's Assn., makes the following comment. "The farmers face a serious shortage of lumber supplies for grain storage and barns to house the steadily increasing livestock population; and estimated lumber requirements for grain storage alone is more than 200 million feet. With every bushel of grain a vital National Asset both during and after the war, it is necessary that proper storage be provided" it declared. "The situation is extremely critical and prompt measures will have to be taken to ensure supplies of lumber to properly store the wests grain and livestock, which are making and can continue to make such an important contribution to Canada's War Effort."

The statement estimated increases in west-

ern livestock between 1939 and 1941 required more than 1 billion feet of lumber.

This estimate gives some idea of the capital expenditure required to provide housing and storage facilities for the farmers produce. With similar regulations in effect here to those prevailing in the United States, the farmer could look after the major portion of these responsibilities himself, and no one could do it more efficiently; but failing this he may feel compelled to take a little holiday away from the towns until the realisation of the value of his commodities scores a hit with the legislative powers which have it within their competence to pay the western farmers as much for his produce as it is really worth.

As an illustration of the back-handed methods by which this government tackles agricultural problems we would like to draw your attention to the bill at present before the Dominion House for the settlement of war veterans on the land. The government proposes to spend at least 80 million dollars on this scheme for a start and the end which it has in view must be to increase farm production of which we have surpluses at present with prices too low to make a decent living. In commenting on this aspect of the case one of the members, a Colonel Ross, is reported to have said that he would not have voted for the Bill had it not been for the fact that provision was being made for Parity Prices. Where is there any such provision? If it is going to be done it should be done now, as it will be very much easier now than after the war. But if any such provision is being made it is a very well kept secret and like most secrets that are so well kept as this one, probably has no foundation in fact. It is the plain duty of this member to see that this Parity Price provision is included in the act or else he should withdraw his support. This scheme if put into operation will multiply the difficulties of agriculture and must not be put into effect by a government which has already demonstrated its inability to find a solution for our present difficulties.

It will require the pressure of more than 50,000 farmers to exert such pressure on the government as will compel them to consider the farmers welfare when passing legislation affecting the farmers. Your future welfare requires that you do this. The Divisional set-up is for the purpose of providing the organization facilities to accomplish this. We hope that every member will make the effort necessary for success.

We read in a "joke" column the other day that "The wolf is said to be dying out in Russia,—possibly he has been finding it hard to keep the communist from the door".

More likely it is because he finds it impossible to live in that country while the Nazis are there.

SUGGESTED RESOLUTION FOR LOCALS TO CONSIDER

In view of the fact that there is but little difference in the relative value of the 3 contract grades of wheat for milling purposes and also the mixing which takes place after purchasing is looked upon as a money making racket by most farmers and is the cause of much dissatisfaction, and

WHEREAS, we understand that the United States authorities do not make this fine distinction in grading which never seems to benefit the farmer, and

WHEREAS, the war effort of Canada and the United States is being pooled we think the methods of grading grain should be the same,

THEREFORE we recommend that Canada adopt the essential features of wheat grading which are practiced in the United States and suggest that for the duration of the war all wheat weighing 60 lbs per bushel of the recognized varieties, sound and free from frost or disease excluding Garnet, be declared to be in the contract grade (which would cover 1, 2, 3).

HOG PRICE DROP ANGERS FARMERS

Edmonton, Sept. 29.—A recent drop in the price paid farmers for hogs has brought a storm of protest from farmers of northern Alberta, H. E. Nichols, secretary of the Alberta Farmers' Union, said in a statement today.

Mr. Nichols said the farmers find it hard to understand why it is that with a guaranteed price for bacon at the seaboard, the packers find it impossible to pay them a stable price.

Letters of protest from farmers have flooded the A. F. U. offices and farmer locals are calling meetings of protest in many areas, Mr. Nichols said.

He warned that farmers will not go into extra production very enthusiastically if they feel that wide fluctuations are going to be permitted in their prices while on the other hand "those who merely do the processing receive a stable guaranteed price.—Calgary Albertan.

Extract from the Market Examiner, Calgary, Sept. 24.—

"Hog producers are a disgruntled bunch right now on account of the fact that the hog price has dropped 75c to 85c in the last two weeks. Some of them are so mad that they have openly said that they would get rid of all their breeding sows. This is an unfortunate situation and one which might have been overcome by a little more forethought on the part of those responsible for the drop."

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SCIENCE AND MORALITY

While running down stairs to light the gas in the furnace this morning and just pausing long enough on the way to put a match to the gas stove in the kitchen I could not help wondering once again, why it was that with so many labour saving devices within our reach, there are still a large number of people who seem to think we should not have them, or it would not be good for us to have them, or something like that. The farmer has to split wood not only for the cook-stove; but for his moral uplift, even though it breaks his back.

Now we have all the men, material, machinery, — and Money, — did somebody say? — which are necessary to make over the physical defects of this country if we have a mind to. And this war is not making us poorer! Far from it. It is making us richer in materials and methods! Scientists tell us that due to the discovery of new synthetic methods we have at our disposal what amounts to the resources of another Planet. These things are invented as a result of the stress of necessity under war-time conditions. Why are not similar discoveries made available in times of peace? Simply because it does not PAY. It is necessary for you to be continually buying, in order to provide a market and so articles are made to wear OUT instead of wear ON.

REPRODUCTION

If the multiple inventions, appliances and materials that are essential to the armed forces in war time were made available to the population in peace time, people would have at hand numerous labour saving devices which would render quite unnecessary a lot of the hand labour that is now performed. And if the material which was put into those appliances was as good as we KNOW HOW to make it, they would give much longer service. But the present system depends for its existence on waste and unnecessary work.

JESUS CHRIST said the "Love of money is the root of all evil", and we have imposed upon ourselves such a financial system that it results more in the LOVE of money for the POWER it

gives, than in making use of it for service. And this has been done by the invention of INTEREST. Inanimate things do not have the power to reproduce their kind. The vital spark called "life" alone has this power. Man has invented and made many wonderful machines but none of them ever give birth to any little ones. The power of increase cannot be given to any machine no matter how beneficent its action. Why give it to Money? This is the factor that is the base of nine-tenths of our troubles. By giving this power to money it soon grows and eats up all our machinery!!!

CREATION

The money which is being created to carry on this war; and it IS being created, deny it how you will: can be created just as well to carry on the works of peace and make available to every person, yes, EVERY person, all the conveniences and comforts of life. But if it is done as it is being done now, with an "Interest tag" attached, it will not be long before the demands of interest will possess all the improvements which have been created by the works of MANY of us and will become possessed by those who own the interest tags, or just a FEW of us. Under such a system we see exemplified and perpetuated the saying "There never was a time when so much was OWING by so MANY to so FEW!!!"

Money for National Improvements should be debt free and interest free and should be brought into existence at the same moment as the day to day work is done. This would provide enough money for our National Economy. Private borrowing and usury could cease. Note we say "could" not "must". Under such a system the army of inspectors who now help to make life miserable could be disbanded. Their interference would not be needed, neither would their votes! If any individual still wished to carry on any private borrowing or lending transactions they would be at liberty to do so; but, — they would not be under economic compulsion to do so. For instance, there would be no hindrance to trading a pipe for a jack-knife or a wagon for a cow, or borrowing \$100 from a friend at 10% if you liked to do it. Such matters would be left to individual inclinations. But you would not be driven to it by economic necessity.

MILLENNIUM

The money issued for the building of schools, roads, bridges, ditches, dams, railways, ships, power-stations, irrigation projects, re-forestation, houses, rural water and sewage, power and light systems, libraries, hospitals, mental institutions as well as Parliament buildings should all be debt free and interest free. These things are ASSETS and should be treated as such. The bankers are the only people who can charge interest on their

liabilities; but we certainly should not pay interest on our Assets. A certain depreciation charge will have to be met, of that we are aware; but the capital charge of these assets will merely be the bookkeeping entry showing the money value of their cost.

As a matter of fact CONSUMPTION is the only and entire "COST of PRODUCTION", in a real sense, apart from the money value we may put on it, and this is an ETERNAL TRUTH we should never forget.

Sincerity of Purpose

Giving everybody the benefit of the doubt we suppose the majority of people are sincere in a measure. Just how far persons can persuade themselves that they are right just because a certain viewpoint happens to suit them, we are not prepared to say. We have often heard it said that going into politics has spoiled many good men. Before they entered politics they were normal individuals but after they had been in the game long enough to be called politicians, they seemingly became members of a different species. This does not only apply to successful members of Parliament or of the Legislature. It is quite often seen in organizations and forms one of those problems which seems to be a formidable barrier to the ultimate success of democracy.

An individual is put into a certain position to further the objectives of those who placed him in power. When he has reached a position from whence he can give real service we often find he turns his back on the principles which he held at one time and disregards all interests but his own. Not that he would admit this. Quite the contrary. He will assert, very earnestly, that he is going the way he is because that is the best way, in fact the only way, for him to obtain those things for his supporters which he was delegated to obtain. To his rank and file supporters, however, his whole viewpoint seems to have changed and while he gets a measure of support from those who are between him and the rank and file, their viewpoint has also changed according to the rank and file, you and I.

Who is making the mistake, the electors or the elected? Is there any method by which we can come to a fair unbiased decision on this point. Being all frail and faulty humans who is going to determine the touchstone by which we can arrive at a correct conclusion.

How about this for a guess?

If the elected members are willing to have their wages paid directly by the electors instead of being voted them-selves after they are safely in power; this would be a demonstration of

whether they thought they "governed" the people or "served" them.

If such a condition were brought about we should find that our members of parliament in replying to letters which they receive from their constituents would finish them up with the salutation, "Your very obedient servant" and they would not only write it, but mean it. And if they did not fulfil their functions of being very obedient servants they would soon be out of a job. There would soon be no need for a "recall" system because when this had happened three or four times the others who remained would indeed be our "very obedient servants".

Resolution

WHEREAS there is a shortage in the allowance of iron being permitted for blacksmith work and this in turn prevents farmers from getting their old machinery repaired which is necessary at this time, and

WHEREAS farmers have given a lot of time and work to collecting metal salvage from off their farms and delivered it free to shipping points from whence in many cases it has not yet been shipped; and where it has the railway companies have received payments for their services, and

WHEREAS this old machinery was the property of the farmers, paid for at very high prices, and has often been the means of supplying material of which the local blacksmith could make effective repairs, and

WHEREAS owing to their patriotic action the farmers have now lost this source of supply and yet it is essential that the blacksmith be furnished with sufficient iron to make necessary repairs in order to enable agriculture to function efficiently

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT we the.....local of the Alberta Farmers' Union request the Wartime Prices and Trade Board or Department of Supplies to allocate sufficient iron and wood to blacksmith supply houses to enable this repair work which is necessary to carrying on farming and without which the war cannot be won; so that it will be available to country blacksmiths to do the necessary repair work. This will enable old machinery to give more service and consequently less demands will be made on new machinery and repair parts resulting in all round economy of material which is so necessary at the present time.

The farmer is the only one who should have authority to say what price he should receive. He is the only one who is entitled to say whether he should deliver his goods at a certain price.

Object Lessons

"Afterwards" was written from a sincere desire on the part of the writer to contribute something, if ever so little, toward the solution of postwar problems which we all hope we shall be called upon to solve in the not distant future, but victory must be ours or there will be no problems for US to solve, they will be solved for us and in a way we shall certainly not like; make no mistake about that, and don't let us make any mistake about where and to whom our real obligation lies; with all due respect and loyalty to his beloved Majesty the King who in the early days of the war happened to give expression to the phrase "We are all in the front line now" which phrase was so eagerly caught up and exploited to the utmost extent by politicians, financiers and propagandists, very few of whom are or ever will be 'in the front line: there is only one front line and that is the battle front.

The King's words unquestionably aptly apply to all those living in Great Britain but we, in Canada, who through age of for other reasons are not called upon for military service are not and cannot claim to be in the front line but we have a duty to those who are there, an obligation we should endeavour to meet in any and every way possible to those who have faced the terrors of modern warfare in the heat and dust of the burning desert, the storms and u-boat danger of the sea and last but not least the youthful heroes of the air; the big majority of whom are too young to bother their heads about the future and even if they were not their job is too strenuous to allow any time for such thoughts.

OLD AGE AND SECURITY

On the average the common man does not much concern himself with problems of life till he reaches middle age and realizes old age is approaching with no certainty as to what his position will be when that time arrives. That state of affairs should be left behind for ever when this horrible and senseless war comes to an end: but will it? Not if it's left to those who at present rule Canada. Let us face the truth, let us tell the truth and let us speak the truth. We know, the little common sense that we may be blessed with tells us, that our financial system is a gigantic fraud, that we cannot save money by spending it! We know, and we knew before it ever started that this or any war cannot be financed without so-called inflation, therefore all the propaganda and threat of ruin does not frighten us; what DOES concern us is the possibility that those who control the destiny of the world through finance shall, when the war is over, retain their power and impose on the people a period of depression, misery and suffering such as has never been ex-

perienced yet, and that, so far, in spite of all their talk to the contrary is all that we can hope for if it is left to them, therefore it is up to us older people who are fortunate enough NOT to be in the front line to do all that lies in our power to bring about a change in our financial and social system so that those to whom we are indebted for doing the actual fighting for us may, those who are fortunate enough to return; do so to a land where unemployment, relief, soup-kitchens and all such abominations in this age of plenty have been abolished for ever; and congenial work, good wages and security for the future when one's share of the world's work has been faithfully done, been substituted.

HOPE

Of course this much to be desired change and improvement in our social life depends almost entirely on an improved system of finance. After three years of the most costly war ever waged our government would still have us believe that it can be paid for in full by future generations through taxation. Only a few days ago an opinion was published in the press of the possibility of the present war lasting for thirty years. Should it do so, what will the financial system be then? Of one thing we can be quite sure: should the war last another year, ten years or thirty years, it will never come to an end for want of money as long as there is a printing-press left intact.

OBJECT LESSONS

Well, we seem a long time arriving at an object lesson but there are plenty to be seen. For number one let us think of a company of soldiers parading through a city and compare that sight in our mind with another spectacle that was becoming an annual event before the war namely, a parade of unemployed. Unfortunately there were too many worthy people, especially among those who held what they believed to be a fairly comfortable and secure economic position, who were willing to evade any sense of personal responsibility by asserting that the majority of the unemployed did not want to work and would not take a job if it was offered to them. The war breaks out, jobs become plentiful and those 'we won't workers' seem to have vanished; remember, the soldier, sailor or airman though he may not be producing any of the necessities of life certainly has to work. The unemployed in their thousands were just allotted enough by a callous and stupid government to keep body and soul together and even that pittance was not doled out without continual wrangling as to how much should be the share of the city, the Provincial government and the Dominion government. Return to

the armed forces, how are they fed, clothed and sheltered?

CONSUMPTION TO PROSPERITY

A short time ago we were asked to observe an 'Army Week', the menu for army week was published, good enough for any healthy person, as for clothing, nothing but the best is good enough, shelter the same, best material, finest workmanship, perfect sanitary arrangements, an object lesson to all as to what can be done to promote health and comfort of fellow human beings. If this can all be done when there's a war on, the main objective of which, of necessity, is destruction of life and property, it seems logical to insist that an even higher standard of living should be provided for all who want it and are willing to give of their best in return when the war is over and the human energy of the man-power available can be turned to construction and production.

Note, we say "when the war is over" not, when peace comes, because unless some such program as the above is followed and the vast accumulation of assets, real wealth in the shape of perfect housing accommodation, air-fields, aerodromes, mechanical equipment, uniforms and a host of other things is turned to good account instead of being discarded as they usually are then there will be very little peace for a great many people. The world, in spite of all the destruction that is taking place, will be many times richer in REAL WEALTH than it ever was before. Shall we make use of it? You farmers, if you will only unite in a solid body, can do more to solve that problem than any other class of people. Think it over!!

BY "OLD MAN".

Taken from a letter from Mr. E. Aaserude, Leduc, Secretary of District 9, September 17th, 1942.

"I am planning on spending some time in the field as soon as the rush is over, we need to get right after this organization business, we must get at least 60,000 farmers in by fall of 1943, so we can have our Provincial Government pass legislation to bring the rest in.

"It may seem a big job but it can be done, if we can get two or three good men in each division who will go right after it, and besides stir up the executive of each local to assist, I am sure our goal will be reached.

"I have spent some time in educational work addressing locals impressing upon them the need of staying by their Union until success is obtained. This work is necessary in order to keep the membership we have intact while we go after the sheep that's outside the fold"

If each one of our Directors and sub-Directors try to do the same as this there should not be much doubt about reaching our "Quota"

MATERIALISM

Wanted — a conclusive definition of the word "materialism". There are a lot of words in the English language that mean several things but to us, this word 'materialism' gets kicked around more than any these days.

The other day at Calgary, Viscount R. B. Bennett warned Canadians in a luncheon address that we must see that the spirit of the people "is not destroyed by love of material things".

Now everything in the physical universe is made of material of some kind or other. And certainly in the waging of this war against the Axis, the greatest accumulation of materials of all kinds in the history of this planet, must take place if we are to win the victory.

It therefore could not be these materials that Viscount Bennett had reference to. Perhaps then it was money and the things that money buys that the warning was directed against.

If that is the case it seems as if R. B. was sticking his neck out a bit, because it is pretty generally believed that Viscount Bennett accumulated considerable amount of those material things himself.

Not that we begrudge the former prime minister of Canada one solitary farthing of the nest egg he may have acquired. Our only concern is to get a definition for the kind of materialism he was hitting at and therefore be able to avoid it in case we incur such risk.

Perhaps it depends on the kind of person who acquires the materials.

Again, we have often puzzled over speeches describing the joys and "spiritual" uplift derived from hard human toil. These pep talks have usually been given by men who only perspire when they shoot a round of golf.

Somehow or other we think a lot of the shouting about materialism just doesn't make sense. Many people who should know better still do not seem to have realized that great and sweeping changes have occurred in the technique of doing things in the past few years.

Something of the age-old superstition of the new still clings to many of our modern leaders. They seem to feel that people would have better morals if we drew water from a well in a bucket instead of turning a tap in the kitchen. That to be jolted in a covered wagon makes a person spiritually minded, while to make the same trip in a limousine is an expression of materialism.

Is there anything to fear from the fact that man now uses his brains instead of his biceps?

This interesting dissertation was published in the Edmonton Bulletin in Jack DeLong's column and it effectively draws attention to the fact that the thoughts of some of our "great" statesmen are as peculiar as their actions would lead us to believe.

Agriculture No. 1. Industry

By

FRANK ELIASON, Secy U.F.C. (Sask. Section)

The greatest single industry in Canada is agriculture; and Canada's greatest single mistake is that it does not recognize the fact. Oh! but someone will say, we do recognize that fact, everybody does, I heard it said at meetings of business men, manufacturers and professors. But what are the facts, farmers are in general not properly recognized because if they were, there would be no agricultural slums, no overwhelming farm debts, no foreclosures on land nor repossession of farm equipment. There would, if agriculture was recognized, be a guarantee of prices for agricultural products which would be in line with the price which farmers must pay for the goods which they must purchase. There would be good roads, satisfactory educational and health services and there would be a proportionate number of farm students in our Collegiates and Universities with that of other groups, and farmers cannot take advantage of modern life and make use of modern equipment as long as our general economy will only provide them with a yearly income per farm family of \$329.00 as was the case in 1930-40. Even in War time the average income of farm families in Canada is only about \$1200.00. If this situation continues, that is if the farmers continue to take advice which is so graciously bestowed upon them by nearly every one that is not engaged in farming, and they increase their production in all lines and leave it to their advisors to do the planning for them just what will be their position in the post-war world. What markets will absorb the 6½ million hogs, the 125 million pounds of cheese, the 45 million dozen eggs which the farmers of Canada are producing as a war effort, not to mention the wheat?

What number of new settlers can be absorbed into agriculture without ruin to those now engaged in that occupation and to themselves? How can the increased production made possible by mechanical invention, and by scientific discovery, be utilized instead of creating the nightmare of undistributed surpluses? Will the blessings of abundance continue to bring ruin to farmers? Shall one-sixth of our population subsist on an inadequate nutritional diet while fruit rots on the trees and flocks and herds are reduced? These are some of the many problems which confront them in the settlement of a post-war economy.

There are those who believe that the post-war period should bring a relinquishing of the present controls as rapidly as possible, their ideal being a complete absence of governmental control over industry.

Surely as these farm problems multiply day

by day and year after year one must seriously consider the future position of agriculture in Canada. It is first of all necessary to inquire into the reasons for the present unsatisfactory state of agriculture. The answer to that is undoubtedly the well known fact that farmers as a class are not aware of the power of organization as are other occupational groups. Farmers have no say in the formation of policies which effect their very lives. We have at this time numerous war time Boards composed of Civil Servants who listen to the advice of powerful organized financiers, industrialists, and labor unions. Farmers if they ever intend to secure fair equitable treatment with other groups must therefore organize upon a proper basis 100% strong and through their union demand that representatives of their own groups be placed upon all war time Boards in order that the farmers viewpoint shall be heard and given consideration. The United Farmers of Canada in Saskatchewan is standing alone in this clamor for equitable recognition of agriculture. Some representations in these matters have been made to governments by farmers co-operative organizations but all that is in vain because farmers engaged in commercial enterprise have very little power, they are too few in numbers and their position is vulnerable. What the farmers must learn is that in order to make their voices heard in the legislative halls and Government circles in general they must, whether they like it or not, take out membership in their own organization; an organization which is not in any way connected with politics or commercial activities. They must also take an active part in their organization and demand service from its officials.

The United Farmers of Canada (Saskatchewan section) is such an organization but if a new and better organization can be created then I say without hesitation, destroy the old and build a new one on a sound foundation of a permanent membership fee and then the farmers will get results. If any one knows of a better plan let us hear about it. Agriculture must be brought out of its present slough of despair or the entire western civilization as we have known it will collapse and agricultural slavery will take its place.

May I be permitted to refer to some of the accomplishments of the U.F.C. during the past week. The Income tax Department at Ottawa had ruled that the farmers must collect and remit wage taxes from harvest laborers. We protested against this rule and as a result it is now not necessary to collect the wage tax but the farmers must send a report of his earnings during the period of employment to the nearest inspector of Income tax.

Farmers may also grist 40 bushels of wheat for their own use.

Do You Know?

That your UNION has in co-operation with other farmers organizations been instrumental in securing the following rights for Western Farmers:

1. Increase of 10% in the price of bacon hogs.
2. Maintaining the right to get export prices on a quota of beef cattle thus assuring Canadian farmers, in a measure, of the benefits of the American market.
3. Increase of six cents per pound on Butterfat.
4. Getting the right to have our own wheat gristed for home use without having it deducted from the first quota. (We are still working on this in order to obtain the right for the farmer to have wheat gristed for his own use without effecting his quota deliveries). *Removal*
5. *Renewal* of hog embargo last fall.
6. Transportation assistance to harvest workers. (We have not yet succeeded in this to the desired degree).
7. Acreage Bonus.
8. Secured a change in the Income Tax regulations relieving farmers of the necessity of making these deductions from harvest help.
9. Trying to get sugar, tea and coffee rationing put on a more equitable basis.

All these things mean considerable help to you farmers and we are aiming to continue trying until Parity Prices for Agriculture is an established fact. It takes \$1.00 per year from every farmer in Alberta in order to maintain your Union to fighting efficiency. At present we have only 1/6 of the farmers of Alberta in the Alberta Farmers' Union. This one-sixth cannot successfully carry the load for six-sixths and your office can only be maintained at one-sixth efficiency on a one-sixth membership. Your Secretary and Editor will have to close the office and go out harvesting if you do not pay your membership when it is time to renew.

If you are satisfied with what you have got and don't want any more, then don't send in your membership dues and we will know what to do.

If you want us to carry on then each member should try and bring in one new member.

The sample copies of the Bulletin are being sent out to the secretaries of the locals to be distributed amongst other farmers in order to get them to become subscribers or members. We find that many of our secretaries are not even subscribers for the Bulletin and we urge them to become so. If you are not in agreement with what appears in it, write and tell us so, as we want to work in co-operation with the secretaries of our locals.

Points Worthy of Consideration

This letter has been sent from Head Office direct to Rationing Department, Ottawa.

Alberta Farmers' Union,
206-7 Agency Building,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Mr. J. F. Johnston,
Director of Rationing
69 Rideau Street, Ottawa.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 10th. instant we have some comments to make as while we wish to co-operate in every way possible we also consider it our duty to point out where the regulations show unfair discrimination against the farmers.

With regard to the so-called "rationing of tea and coffee". There is no effective rationing for the people who live in the towns because they can get all they want in addition to what they are allowed on their cards. True they can only buy one cup at each place; but they can buy the second cup by walking next door.

Compare this with the situation faced by the farmers wife who is confronted with a threshing crew which arrives at a short time before meal time. She is expected to provide the meal but she will have to collect ration cards from members of the crew (if they have them), then drive to town, buy the tea and coffee, return to the farm and prepare the meal.

We feel sure the regulations were never intended to bring about ridiculous situations of this kind and as extra allowances are permitted for certain kinds of strenuous work, we do not see why these should not apply to farm work which is certainly strenuous enough as I can vouch for after 35 years of it.

If the supply of tea and coffee is as short as your letter implies, then everyone should be rationed immediately. As I pointed out before there is no real rationing for the people in the cities and the same is largely true in regard to sugar. Another thing, hard work out of doors causes the human body to consume large quantities of carbon and sugar helps to supply this need, so these people are merely feeding their physical frames and not indulging in luxury.

These are points that are well worthy of the consideration of your department and we hope that you will see your way to relaxing the regulations during the threshing season.

Yours truly,

H. E. NICHOLS, Secretary,
ALBERTA FARMERS' UNION.

Resolution

WHEREAS it is impossible to say what conditions may be after the war and whether markets will be enlarged or still further restricted, AND

WHEREAS it is useless to grow crops for which there is no market overseas after the Canadian demand is supplied,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the A. F. U. urge upon all Governments, Dominion and Provincial, to work out with the representatives of genuine farmer organizations, a system of quotas sufficient to supply the visible markets and then in conjunction with the Experimental farms and Department of Agriculture to lay out such a system of farming as shall be self-sufficient for Canadian and Commonwealth needs but which is capable of expansion to any reasonable extent to supply world needs in any line that may offer and to which we can cater if the necessity arises.

A system of crop rotation would seem to fulfil the necessities of the case better than any other. Actual production should be secondary to maintaining the fertility of the soil while leaving it in a condition to go largely into wheat if necessary for export requirements. Such a scheme must go hand in hand with a guaranteed prices which will enable the farmer to make an adequate living even with the restricted production.

We want all our members to study this resolution and offer any amendments they may have for its improvement. A solution for this question has got to be found and unless some practical method of making synthetic rubber out of wheat is soon put into operation thereby using up some of the existing surplus, the production of this grain will have to be curtailed, without taking away the farmers means of livelihood. This is a question for the farmers to decide. And we want you to offer your opinion. If you think the quota resolution is a solution tell us so.

Following is the "quota" resolution referred to:

WHEREAS, owing to the increased costs of everything that the farmer has to buy and also the higher wages of farm labor, and in view of the fact that the Government recognizes the prices that prevailed in 1927 on most other products and wage scales,

THEREFORE, we, the Alberta Farmers' Union in convention assembled, demand a quota of 1000 bushel of wheat to each bona-fide farmer at not less than \$1.25 per bushel for grades 1, 2 & 3 at point of delivery. We further demand a parity price on a quota of all other farm produce which is consumed in Canada, using wheat as a basis.

SEVEN PER CENT

Banks do not lend money at 7% interest. You may be able to borrow it for that or even less but the records prove that for every dollar of real money which the bankers have in their possession they have been collecting 49% interest for a good many years past.

Having made this statement it is of course up to me to prove it.

In the first place the amount of money which bankers show in their balance sheet as deposits does not mean that their customers have deposited that much money with them. Quite the contrary. A deposit in the bank may be made in two ways. You can deposit that much cash, say \$100.00. In that case of course the Bank now has that much money in its possession. Secondly, if you are a good farmer or businessman and still have some "assets" you can go to the bank and "pledge your assets" in exchange for a loan.

If the banker, after valuing your assets at \$500.00 say, agrees to lend you \$100.00 he then opens an account for you and shows you with a deposit of \$100.00.

For every \$100.00 cash deposited in the bank the bankers find they are quite safe in making loans of \$100.00 each to seven different customers or \$700.00 in all. As the banker draws 7% on each loan then his interest amounts to \$700 @ 7% equals \$49.00. This \$49.00 is the interest which accrues to the bank as a result of being in possession of \$100.00 cash and this equals 49% interest.

This is how "inflation" is caused and not by customers bidding prices up against one another nor by the farmers getting another cent a pound for his cattle or hogs. It is only by **eating** the cattle or hogs that **you** experience any "inflation".

Not by bidding up the price in the butcher shop, this would only lead to financial "deflation" for you!!!

SICK BODY, STRONG SPIRIT

Copy of a letter received from one of our members:

"Since I wrote you last June re a local group of the Farmers' Union here, I was taken very ill. I was examined by the doctors here then sent to Edmonton, to the cancer clinic for a further examination, returned to Westlock and at present I am on a milk diet with orders to stay home and do no work of any kind. I received your membership book and material which I had just distributed when I was laid up. I have not given up hope and when I am allowed out, it is still my intention to endeavour to get a group started here in Westlock. Apparently I am improving and hope I can make myself useful yet. Apologizing for the delay which, however, was unavoidable.

Yours truly A. J. ADKINS.

HARVEST HELP

A friend of mine who runs a business near the Government Employment office told me the other day of the following event which took place.

A farmer drove up and saw two men outside and made a deal with them for stooking at \$5.00 per day. The men agreed and asked for the loan of \$1 to pay for their room. The dollar was handed over and the farmer waited for them. He was waiting so long that he decided to look for them and found them drinking beer in the hotel. He said let's get going boys and the reply was, 'guess we're not coming with you, another fellow is paying us six dollars a day'.

Now we are not finding fault with these men for trying to get six dollars a day. Stooking is hard work, especially this year and these men will earn their money if they stook well, which is more than we would be prepared to say for some government employees; but the point is that farmers cannot afford to pay these wages at present prices. Thirty days stooking with board and very little other necessary expense will net a stooker \$180. This is more than some farmers will have for a whole year's work. And even then it will not be spent on pleasure but on household necessities or farm repairs and upkeep; things which really enter into the costs of production and should be recovered in prices; but which are not. (This is what your Union aims to get for you through UNION action).

In the brief which we presented to the Advisory Committee on Harvest Labour, we asked that the farm workers be bonused by the government and also that free transportation be given them. Neither of these has been done and the harvest help situation is getting desperate in places.

As we write this threshing is almost completed in the Peace River area and if free transportation were given both ways and a bonus also, there would probably be many good men willing to go harvesting in those districts where they are still needed.

It is unreasonable to expect a harvest worker to travel on the railway to a job which might be intermittent owing to bad weather and then pay the majority of his wages to a transportation company which depends for its existence on hauling the farmers products; but makes practically no concessions in passenger fares in this time of stress.

We have written to Mr. Mitchell the Minister of Labour about this and no reply has yet been received.

We just have received a letter from Mr. Nick Baron of Bonnyville in which he urges all locals should do what they can to fill the radio fund brimful for this winter broadcasts, contributed

by us farmers. He says the big locals should do so in proportion to the small locals even if they have to get their wives to help them and he sent in \$5 from the Merton local. "We all need a farmers union, radio and press to put up a fight for a better standard of living for the farmers," he said.

OH! DEMOCRACY...

An announcement in the press and over the radio recently informed us that Elliott M. Little had been made Director of National Selective Service. At the same time the penalties were announced for any infractions of the regulations in the enforcement of his man-power policy were made known to an amazed people who have believed they lived under Democratic Institutions.

From henceforth, under these regulations the onus of proving ones innocence will be placed on the accused. In other words you are guilty unless you can PROVE your innocence. Such a law has sent many an innocent victim to the gal-lows.

This is a complete reversal of the principles of true democratic law which has always adjudged a person to be innocent until proved guilty. The pity of it is so few people seem to notice that this is just the thin edge of the wedge towards bureaucracy and if we are to preserve democracy, it must be resisted with vigor.

The people need to be on the watch. Democratic rights can be filched away under a bureaucratic regime just as completely as they can under a dictatorship and we must remember that Eternal Vigilance is the Price of Liberty.

GET IT FROM

A.F.U. BULLETIN

The Only Farmers Union Paper in Alberta

This Form is for Your Convenience —

Mail It Today

A. F. U. BULLETIN,

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Dear Sir,

Enclosed please find 50 cents for one year (25c for six months) Subscription to the A. F. U. Bulletin.

NAME (Print)

ADDRESS

United Farmers of Canada (Alberta Section) Convention

AFTERNOON SESSION, JAN. 23, 1942.

(Continued)

COMPULSORY MEMBERSHIP

It is resolved that we, the United Farmers of Canada, (Alberta Section) hereby petition the Provincial Government to Institute at the next session of the legislature a compulsory farm organization scheme (Similar to the Teacher's Alliance and Brotherhood of Railway Workers), whereby one tenth of one per cent of all proceeds from the sale of all grains and livestock, at time of selling (similar to the methods of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act) be deposited in a farmer's organization for bona fide farmers only, such fund to be used for the purpose of financing a central office similar to that possessed by all other trade unions, whose objective shall be the economic security and welfare to both resolutions:

"That both or either of these resolutions should be acted upon when 51% or more of all farmers have joined this or any other farm organization supporting a similar resolution".

C.E. Boulter moved the adoption of the above resolution, seconded by Kelly.

Moved by Anderson, seconded by Maitland that the resolution be tabled. CARRIED.

The following resolution was moved by Yusep seconded by Goebel:

WHEREAS there may be matters, legal or otherwise, necessary to the chartering of the Alberta Farmers' Union,

BE IT RESOLVED that this convention give the incoming board the authority to deal with any such matters. CARRIED.

WHEREAS the majority of citizens of the Dominion of Canada are in need of medical care or hospitalization during their lifetime;

AND WHEREAS a large portion of these people lack this attention through being unable to finance same;

AND WHEREAS it is difficult for the taxpayers to pay the hospital tax as well as medical fees and hospitalization which to municipalities is becoming greater each year,

AND WHEREAS the Dominion Government is at the present time, giving free medical attention and hospitalization to her armed forces;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a plan be outlined immediately to see that social service be given immediate consideration after the war is over and a plan be drawn up, whereby, through indirect taxation on manufactured or processed goods, the Dominion Government give free medical attention and hospitalization.

This was moved by Yusep and seconded.

It was amended so that the last paragraph read as follows:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a plan be outlined immediately to see that social service be given the immediate consideration after the war is over and a plan drawn up, whereby the Dominion Government give free medical attention and hospitalization, paid for in the following proportions, Dominion Government 75% Provincial Government 25%.

Sharon moved the adoption of the amendment, seconded by Kelly.

It was moved by Matier, seconded by Craddock that the resolution be tabled. LOST.

The resolution was carried as amended.

It was moved by Logan, seconded,

RESOLVED that the Board of Directors be given the authority to consider and deal with the resolutions not yet dealt with. CARRIED.

Rawluk moved, and it was seconded that his resolution be the last one read.

Resolution No. 43.

WHEREAS we, the delegates of the United Farmers of Canada (Alberta Section) convention believing it to be in the interest of Canadian unity, in order to achieve complete victory over Hitlerism and Fascism, send this resolution to the Canadian Government with all due respect to take immediate steps by which to ameliorate the distressful situation, in which one hundred anti-fascists, or fellow citizens "enemies of Briton's enemies", are interned and imprisoned; in which anti-fascist organizations and their publications have been banned; in which their property has been confiscated; and in which drastic repression has been laid upon the rights and lawful methods of Trade Unions, and upon the exercise of freedom of speech,

THEREFORE — we ask the Government to bring the following reforms to relieve the situations:

1. To release of all anti-fascists.
2. The removal of the ban from anti-fascist organizations and publications and the return of all property confiscated.
3. The repeal of section 21 of the Defence of Canada regulations and of all similar legislation, which drastically curtails the rights of freedom and speech.
4. The adoption of a policy which will fully protect the rights of the trade union movement in Canada in organization; in collective bargaining and in the right of strike if necessary; and which will bring the forces of the trade Unions movement into all war counsels.

Moved by Rawluk, seconded by Karparachuk.

After a lengthy discussion the resolution was CARRIED by 31 - 25. THE END.